

BOURNE  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1950



# BOURNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of  
the Bourne Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting my report and that of  
your Sanitary Inspector for 1950.

### A. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area, in acres ... ..	10,103
Population—Registrar General's figures 1950 ...	5,360
Number of Inhabited Houses ... ..	1,492
Rateable Value ... ..	£23,725
Sum represented by a Id. rate ... ..	£89

### VITAL STATISTICS.

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Births ... ..	42	35	77
Deaths ... ..	30	27	57

Deaths from Puerperal Causes	}	Nil
„ „ Measles		
„ „ Whooping Cough		
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years)		

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Still Births ... ..	1	1	2
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	3	1	4

### CAUSES OF DEATH.

	MALE	FEMALE
Measles ... ..	—	1
Malignant neoplasm stomach ... ..	1	—
„ „ uterus ... ..	—	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	2	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	5	7
Diabetes ... ..	—	2
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	1	—
Other heart disease ... ..	6	3
Other circulatory disease ... ..	1	1
Influenza ... ..	1	—
Pneumonia ... ..	3	4
Bronchitis ... ..	3	3
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	2	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	3	4
Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	1	—
All other accidents ... ..	1	—

## B. HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA.

The personnel of the Health Services remain as before.

The two Queen's Sisters continue to do their invaluable work. They have had to take over three villages to the west, owing to the retirement of the Rippingale Nurse. The Home Help Service is proving of great value.

The Ambulance Service, run by the County Council is functioning smoothly.

The Health Service is working smoothly and admission to hospital has presented no difficulty for urgent cases, but there is still often a long delay in securing admission of old people into St. George's Home.

Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1947 has not had to be invoked. In my opinion only the most exceptional circumstances justify it, and rather than use it, I would have the utmost pressure applied to the sons and daughters, where there are any, to fulfil their parental obligations which are as binding today as they were in the days of Abel.

The Sanatorium here will soon be ready to accept many more cases and after the promised installation of an X-ray Unit and Clinic under the Chest Physician will be a model of its kind.

## C. HOUSING.

In 1950— 10 private houses were completed and  
6 Council bungalows.

Far too few for the undiminished waiting list. New building has not caught up with either the marriage or birth rate, let alone the need for demolishing the many unfit houses. The housing shortage is the greatest and most heartbreaking problem of our time. The Council are faced with rising costs and the need to re-house the lowest income groups often living in the worst condition.

### WATER.

The Town water is chlorinated as a routine. The Swimming Baths are kept under observation and samples taken at intervals.

### CONVERSIONS OF MIDDEN OR PAN CLOSETS TO WATERCLOSETS.

Number converted, 5.

### VERMIN INFESTATION.

Cases dealt with, 2.

## D. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

All meat is inspected at the Government Slaughterhouse, in conjunction with the South Kesteven Rural District Council. Your Officer's attempts to secure the hygienic handling of meat in transit from the slaughterhouse to the various butchers' shops has failed. The principle of least handling after slaughter has ceased to have a meaning. The carcasses are bumped about the van's floor, or stand with exposed meat on the floor, along whose surface the carriers' boots move on and off the road, this mainly because the vehicle's structure permits no other way.

The present arrangements are a mockery of the Clean Food Campaign.

The logical, simple solution is to allow local butchers, renowned for their cleanliness, to transport their own meat.

I would again repeat that after all these years of Departmental dichotomy and hesitation, the only solution is to hand it over to the Local Authority, who would be masters in their own house.

## E. PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The Medical Officer of Health has lost under the 1948 "set up" some control over Infectious Disease. This loss of control is particularly noticeable with regard to the Notification of Tuberculosis and the handing to the Medical Officer of Health of information relating to the transference to his area of Tubercular cases, who for all he knows may be engaged in the milk and food trades. I believe this is recognised at the Ministry and I hope for better co-ordination.

### TUBERCULOSIS.—New Cases and Mortality in 1950:—

Age Periods.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary.		Non- Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non- Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1—2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2—5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5—15	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
15—25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25—35	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
35—45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45—55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55—65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

# E. PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

	Diphtheria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	Dysentery	Scarlet Fever	Acute Poliomyelitis	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Paratyphoid Fever
Under												
1 year	-	-	2	-	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
1—2	-	-	-	-	10	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
2—3	-	-	1	-	18	3	-	-	2	-	-	-
3—4	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
4—5	-	-	1	-	7	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
5—10	-	-	1	-	41	-	-	-	9	-	-	1
10—15	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
15—20	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20—35	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
35—45	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
45—65	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	-	18	-	84	7	3	-	17	1	-	1
Admitted into Hos- pital	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-

I wish to thank my fellow officers for their unfailing help.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. A. GALLETLY,

Medical Officer of Health.

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1950.

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting my report for 1950.

## A. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

**HOUSING.**—Six Council Houses (Bungalows) were completed during the year, and the main consideration in allocation being overcrowding. Ten private houses were completed.

Consideration was given to the service of Demolition Orders in respect of 19 houses; in each case undertakings were accepted in accordance with the provisions of the Housing Act.

**SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND DRAINAGE.**—It has to be recorded with regret that but little progress has been made regarding the construction of new sewage works. Extended negotiations continue to delay this essential reconstruction. Twenty-one additional premises were connected to the sewers this year, apart from the provision of bathrooms, etc., to existing premises.

Five middens have been converted to the water carriage system.

The sewer extension to the Hereward School was commenced but work terminated owing to the closing down of the premises.

**REFUSE COLLECTION.**—Refuse collection is carried out weekly in the town area, once a fortnight at Dyke and Cawthorpe, and monthly in the North Fen Area. A voluntary trade collection scheme is carried out, on payment of costs.

**RODENT CONTROL.**—Periodical treatment of sewers, sewage works and the refuse tip are carried out. Complaints are investigated and the necessary steps carried out by the Rodent Operator. Treatment was carried out at 24 premises.

**DISINFESTATION.**—Two verminous premises were dealt with.

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS.**—The following complaints were dealt with:—

	No. of Complaints.	Informal Notices.	Statutory Notices.
Housing defects	18	15	7
Defective drainage	13	12	—
Keeping of Animals	2	2	—
Dangerous structures	5	5	—
Caravans	3	3	—
Other matters	18	12	—



## B. INSPECTION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.

MEAT INSPECTION.—Animals intended for food are slaughtered at the Ministry of Food's Central Slaughterhouse. Ante-mortem inspection was carried out in some cases but post-mortem inspection was carried out to all carcasses with the co-operation of the South Kesteven Rural District Council. Minor improvements have been carried out to the slaughterhouse, but unfortunately your Officer's recommendations have not been complied with.

The handling of meat has been referred to by the Medical Officer of Health.

A total number of 3,021 animals were inspected during the year made up as follows:—

Bulls.	Bullocks.	Cows.	Heifers.	Calves.
25	307	309	143	421
	Sheep & Lambs.		Pigs.	
	1,680		136	

Total weight of meat condemned:—

30 tons, 6 cwts, 12 lbs.

The following table gives details of carcasses inspected and condemned and the percentages of the total number of carcasses inspected which were found to be affected with (1) diseases other than tuberculosis, (2) tuberculosis.

		Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	...	475	309	421	1680	136

### ALL DISEASES EXCEPT

#### TUBERCULOSIS:

(a) Whole carcasses condemned	... ..	12	29	75	35	10
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	115	93	3	53	54

Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	...	26.74%	39.48%	18.53%	5.24%	47.06%
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# TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:

(a) Whole carcasses condemned ...	6	15	1	—	5
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	77	110	—	—	6
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	17.47%	40.45%	0.24%	—	8.09%

FOOD INSPECTION. — The following visits were made to food premises:—

Butchers' Shops ...	16	Ice Cream Premises	20
Restaurants ...	12	Other Premises ...	6

Eight Notices were served with respect to cleansing and washing facilities. The necessary works were carried out, or major improvements pending.

The following unsound food was examined in shops, etc., and surrendered voluntarily:—

Meat 60 lbs.	Tinned Fruit 16 lbs.
Fish 56 lbs.	„ Meat 35 lbs.
Dripping 56 lbs.	„ Milk 42 lbs.
Marshmallow Cream 36 lbs.	„ Vegetables 35 lbs.
Dried Fruit 23 lbs.	Other foods 5 lbs.

SALE OF ICE CREAM. — Ice Cream is manufactured and sold from one premises only, and sold from 12 other premises.

The premises have been kept under observation; 14 samples were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratories for examination. The final results were satisfactory.

## C. FACTORIES ACT 1937 & 1948.

The following table shows the inspections made:—

	No. on Register.	Inspections.	Informal Notices.
(1) Factories without Mechanical Power Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 enforceable by the Local Authority ... ..	11	12	2
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforceable by the Local Authority. (Factories with Mechanical Power) ... ..	46	15	3
(3) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforceable ... ..	2	—	—
	59	27	5

The defects found were want of cleanliness or unsuitable sanitary conveniences.

In reviewing the year, I am justified in stating that in spite of the difficult circumstances of the time, some further progress has been made in the general interest of hygiene. One is, however, dismayed when thoughts turn to the Sewage Works, the 40 or so additional houses that will be connected to this system during the next year and the further projects contemplated.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking my Assistant, Mr. G. Batterham, for his keenness and help, and to record my appreciation of the assistance afforded me by my Fellow Officers.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. H. HOWARD.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.



